

PATENT

Our Docket: P-TB 4927

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

JS986 U.S. PTO
09/930600
08/15/01

In re Application of
. Sem et al.

) Group Art Unit: Not yet
) assigned
)

Serial No.: Not yet assigned

) Examiner: Not yet assigned
)

Filed: Herewith

) CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"
)

For: NMR-SOLVE METHOD FOR
RAPID IDENTIFICATION
OF BI-LIGAND DRUG
CANDIDATES

) "EXPRESS MAIL" MAILING LABEL NUMBER: EL 856980084 US
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) DATE OF DEPOSIT: August 15, 2001
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ATTN: Box Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Patrick Lee
Printed Name of Person Mailing Paper or Fee

Sir:

Patrick Lee
Signature of Person Mailing Paper or Fee

PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL

The Applicant hereby petitions to expedite this application by making it special under 37 C.F.R. § 1.102, thereby advancing examination of the application out of turn.

The Applicant claims special status for this application because it relates to biotechnology and was filed by a small entity.

(A) Small entity status has been established. A copy of the Small Entity Statement filed on June 4, 1999, is attached as Exhibit A.

(B) The subject of the application represents a significant portion of the applicant's intellectual property portfolio and on-going licensing strategy, and is therefore a major asset of the applicant.

Inventor: Sem et al.
Serial No.: Not yet assigned
Filed: Herewith
Page 2

(C) The development of the field of drug discovery will be significantly impaired if examination of the application is delayed. Unlike previous methods for understanding enzyme-ligand interactions, which can take years to map and analyze the complete structure of enzyme-ligand complexes, the method of the invention enables researches to rapidly identify ligands that bind to enzymes of interest and to generate libraries of drug candidates that are optimized for enzyme families. Thus, expediting examination of this application will speed the drug discovery process.

For the Examiner's convenience in examining this application, the Applicant is submitting a copy of the International Search Report and Written Opinion from the corresponding PCT application as Exhibits B and C.

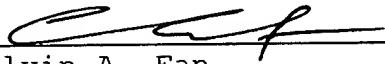
A check in the amount of \$1,207.00 is enclosed, \$777.00 of which covers the basic filing fee, \$300.00 of which covers the fee for early publication as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.18(d) and \$130.00 of which covers the petition fee as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.102(d). The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 03-0370 for any fee associated with this Petition. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed for this purpose.

Inventor: Sem et al.
Serial No.: Not yet assigned
Filed: Herewith
Page 3

Please direct any questions to the undersigned attorney
or Cathryn Campbell.

Respectfully submitted,

August 15, 2001
Date



Calvin A. Fan
Registration No. 38,444
Telephone No. (858) 535-9001
Facsimile No. (858) 535-8949

CAMPBELL & FLORES LLP
4370 La Jolla Village Drive
7th Floor
San Diego, California 92122
USPTO Customer No. 23601